

Minutes of the
Thursday, October 19, 2023 meeting of the
State Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team (State IHMT)

Meeting location: Room #208, 2nd floor, 3930 Fairview Industrial Drive SE, Salem, 97302 or Zoom

1) Welcome

Stephen opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Stephen noted the Oregon Legislature confirmation of Erin McMahon as the new Oregon Department of Emergency Management Director, and Patence Winningham as the new Deputy. Stephen also noted Jonna Papaefthimiou's appointment as the new State Resilience Officer. He reminded us about the State IHMT Charter project which is under review by the new Director and Deputy.

2) Introductions

The following 33 people participated in the meeting:

Department of Administrative Services (DAS)	Jenny Potter
Business Oregon, Infrastructure Finance Authority (IFA)	Gloria Zacharias
Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE)	Jason Sierman
	Max Woods
Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)	Don Pettit
Division of Financial Regulation (DFR)	Karla Martinez
Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)	Bill Brown
Dept. of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)	Matt Crall (second half of meeting)
	Rhiannon Bezore
	Gianna Allesi
	Trisha Patterson
	Chris Shirley (in person)
	Cynthia Smidt (in person)
	Katherine Daniel
	Marian Lahav (in person)
	Susan Millhauser (in person)
Oregon Dept. of Emergency Management (OEM)	Stephen Richardson (in person)
	Althea Rizzo
	Hannah Fattor
	Jason Gately
	Joseph Murray (in person)
	Jon Wiebe (in person)
	Nancy Taylor (second half of meeting)
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)	Christie Shaw
Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)	Mike De Blasi
Department of State Lands (DSL)	Jessica Gourley
Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)	Josh Bruce
University of Oregon, Institute for Policy Research and Engagement (IPRE)	Michael Howard
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians	Doug Ladd
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians	Max Hoover
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Mary DeBacker
	Rynn Lamb
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Paul Sclafani

3) Act on draft minutes from the July 20, 2023 meeting

Stephen facilitated. Susan moved approval as drafted. Marian offered a second.

4) Post-Fire Debris Flow (PFDF) update

Bill updated on the PFDF work that DOGAMI is leading on the Eagle Creek, Beechie-Lionshead, Holiday, and Archie fires, noting that these projects are coming along fantastic. He said that Rattlesnake Ridge Fire near Sutherlin from this season is a fire of concern; there are a lot of residential areas below that have been hammered by debris flows in the past. DOGAMI wants to install a precipitation gauge there. The other fire of concern from this year was the Camp Creek Fire in the Bull Run Watershed. Bill noted he had spoken with Stephen earlier this week about potential funding. Bill said that our “Met. Station” network in Oregon is not very good. The gauges don’t cost all that much. Gauges need to be connected with telemetry to a network. He noted that to add rain gauges at a seismic sensor location costs something like an extra fifty bucks. Bill then talked about the effect of snow on the ground, and the usefulness of SNOTEL stations.

5) Lower McKenzie Floodplain Restoration Project

Josh Bruce facilitated this agenda item from a presentation. [If you want a copy of the presentation, send an email message to joseph.murray@oem.oregon.gov] The University of Oregon, Institute for Policy Research and Engagement (IPRE) is working with the McKenzie Watershed Council and other organizations on this project. Michael Howard of IPRE is also involved in this project.

Paul talked about the nexus between restoration and floodplain management. He then talked about the funding that Silver Jackets has to re-map and re-model the McKenzie River from Blue River down to the confluence with the Willamette. Paul also noted a restoration project tied to the 42nd Street Levee in Springfield.

6) *Update on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in Oregon, and Oregon Silver Jackets (the Flood Mitigation Subcommittee to the State IHMT)*

Paul gave a detailed report, much of it developed by Deanna Wright of DLCD.

- Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) is a new flood standard that aims to build a more resilient future and require higher regulations for federal projects. On October 2, FEMA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register for revisions to its floodplain management regulations at Title 44 Part 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The FFRMS updates the requirements of EO 11988, directing agencies to use more rigorous criteria for determining acceptable levels of flood risk for federally funded projects and to incorporate natural features or nature-based solutions into project design that reduce local flood risk and increase resilience against flooding. The three design options are: 1. Climate Informed Science Approach; 2. Freeboard Approach (elevate 2 or 3 feet above the “base flood elevation”); or 3. construct in the 500 year floodplain (as opposed to the 100 year floodplain). Website on FFRMS: <https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/intergovernmental/federal-flood-risk-management-standard>
- Oregon has entered our rainy/flood season. Deanna distributed DLCD’s annual flood season preparedness email message on October 11 to over 300 Oregon floodplain staff.
- Back in September about 30 emergency management and floodplain staff met in Benton County to bring together regional partners to safeguard against flooding. The event was the first of its kind and allowed attendees an opportunity to learn about new map products for flood preparation and response. There were presentations from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOGAMI, FEMA, and NWS showcasing the roles they play in floodplain management.
- DLCD began Community Assistance Visits (CAVs) for Vernonia and Ashland during the past month; also plan to visit Rockaway Beach on a CAV; began a Community Assistance Contact (CAC) for Warrenton and plans to do CACs for Josephine County, Enterprise, Wheeler, and Burns in the coming months.

- FEMA has distributed a new guidance document summarizing the substantial damage determinations post-disaster that local staff must perform.
- On the Oregon Bi-OP project, DLCD is one of the multiple Oregon "cooperating agencies" assisting FEMA in the review of the draft EIS and the technical guidance FEMA is preparing. Quarterly updates are given on that website. In June 2023 the NEPA scoping ended and now FEMA is embarking on drafting the EIS and associated guidance documents. They aim to get this out in May 2024. Then there will be another open comment period for communities, agencies, and property owners. Right now we don't know what the new minimum performance standards will be yet to comply with the Bi-Op. Track the Oregon Bi-Op at <https://www.fema.gov/about/organization/region-10/oregon/nfip-esa-integration>
- DLCD, OEM, and USACE staff attended a pre-Discovery meeting in Medford last week to begin conversations on potential revised flood mapping in Jackson County. It was a successful meeting and may result in additional outreach meeting in late winter/spring.
- In September there was a RiskMAP Open House in Sherman County for revised flood maps. There are also RiskMAP projects underway in Hood River and Wasco counties.
- Paul and Deanna are both interested in helping to update the Flood Annex of the *State Emergency Operations Plan* (State EOP).

Paul and Stephen talked about a meeting scheduled for the following day to talk a little bit about doing an exercise (at some point) based on the Flood Annex to the State EOP.

Chris and Paul then talked briefly about the state's *Flood Communication Plan* and *Perishable Data Plan*.

7) Update on local-tribal mitigation work being done by DLCD, OPDR, and DOGAMI

Susan gave the update for the three agencies. A table on this topic had been prepared and distributed prior to the meeting. Highlighted were the project that Josh had just talked about, La Grande, Lane County, and Jackson County.

8) Introduction to the OEM GeoHazards Program

Althea gave an overview of the OEM GeoHazards Program. She used a slideshow to facilitate the update. [If you want a copy of the presentation, send an email message to joseph.murray@oem.oregon.gov]

9) BRIC, NOFO¹ and Preapplication Review Panel; update on Post-Disaster Grants

Jon gave an overview of the NOFO for 2023 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grants. [If you want a copy of the NOFO, send an email message to joseph.murray@oem.oregon.gov] Jon then recruited participants to sit on this year's BRIC preapplication review panel.

Stephen then talked about the OEM set-aside within 2023 BRIC for plans and plan related activities (\$1.5 million), including Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). Michael talked about the funding for CWPPs that is also available via the Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) with an application period that closes at the end of October. See <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/Documents/2023-cwdg-notice-of-funding-opportunity-instructions.pdf> Michael noted that the CWDG is focused on the higher risk communities, noting that this is the tool that is being used for the Community Wildfire Defense Grant to show risk to communities. <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/>

¹ BRIC, NOFO = Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, Notice of Funding Opportunity

Michael also provided in the meeting chat, "...Marion County... according to the tool the county would not meet the criteria based on national dataset for 'wildfire hazard potential' (according to national datasets). Local data can be substituted to prove high/very high wildfire hazard potential (including the work currently underway under SB762/SB80) and/or data in CWPPs and NHMPs. However, if that can't be shown a jurisdiction will receive no points in that category (20 out of 100). The folks I chatted with said that a community is not likely to move forward with a score less than 80/100... For jurisdictions that cannot show high/very high wildfire hazard potential HMA may be a better fit.

10) Report from FEMA Region Ten Mitigation Division

Rynn had a couple of slides; noting that "there has been a whole lot going on."

State Dashboard - Oregon

Risk MAP Project Status Summary

	Active	Not Started	On Hold
Total	14	1	2

Upcoming Events and Deliverables

Location	Description	Date
Gilliam County	BLE Update	10/31/2023
Klamath County (Revised)	Appeal Period End	11/7/2023
Washington County (Gales Creek)	Draft Maps	TBD Nov
Benton County	LLPT Meeting	TBD Nov
Sherman County	Appeal Period Start	TBD Nov
Lane County (Siuslaw)	FRR Meeting	TBD Nov/Dec
Clatsop County (Columbia PMR)	FRR Meeting	TBD Dec
Harney County (Phase II)	Effective Date (anticipated)	2/8/2024
Sherman County	Appeal Period End	TBD - Feb 2024
Klamath County (Revised)	Letter of Final Determination	TBD - Apr 2024

Note: All meetings are virtual unless specified otherwise.

Milestones/ Deliverable Legend				
NS	On Hold	G	Due in 90+ Days	Y
			Due in 60 Days	Due in 30 Days

FY Accomplishments

Key Accomplishments	Date
Biological Opinion Draft Maps	1/3/2023
Wasco County CCO Meeting	1/31/2023
Klamath County Revised Preliminary	2/1/2023
Gilliam County BLE Kick-off	2/7/2023
Grant County Flood Study Kick-off	2/16- 2/17/2023
Hood River County Commissioner Meeting	2/27/2023
Sherman County CCO Meeting	3/14/2023
Central Lane County Appeal Period Ends	4/19/2023
Wasco County Council Meeting	5/17/2023
Wasco County The Dalles City Council Meeting	5/22/2023
Wasco County Public Open House(s)	5/23/2023 - 5/24/2023
Ontario, Malheur County Meeting	7/13/2023
Annual Mitigation Program Consultation	7/20/2023
Portland NTHMP	7/31/2023 - 8/4/2023
Oregon RiskMAP Meet & Greet	7/31/2023
Sherman County City Council Meetings (Moro, Grass Valley, Rufus)	8/1/2023 - 8/9/2023
Klamath County (Revised Prelim) Appeal Start	8/9/2023
Lane County (Siuslaw) Draft Maps	8/31/2023
Sherman County Public Open House	9/7/2023
Benton County Inundation Mapping Meeting	9/26/2023

Data Source: Status of Studies, other As Of Date: 10/19/2023

FEMA Risk MAP Activities - Oregon

Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) Program Updates - Project Status

CTP Partner	Location	Description	Current Status and/or Upcoming Milestones	Links, if Available
OEM	Statewide	Risk MAP Coordinator	In Progress (2022-24)	
City of Portland	Johnson Creek Watershed	Flood Study Project Scoping	New Award (2023-25)	
DOGAMI	Upper John Day Baker County Eagle Creek Jackson County (Gaps)	LIDAR Acquisitions	Upper John Day: Completed Baker County: In Progress Eagle Creek: In Progress Jackson County: In Progress	DOGAMI LIDAR Viewer: https://gis.dogami.oregon.gov/maps/lidarviewer/ Oregon LIDAR Consortium: https://www.oregongeology.org/lidar/
DOGAMI	Hood River, Sherman, Wasco, Coos, Benton, Marion, Morrow, Washington, Klamath, Crook, Yamhill, Harney Counties	Multi-hazard Risk Assessments and Story Maps	Benton: Completed Crook: In Progress Harney (update): In Progress Klamath: In Progress Marion: In Progress Morrow: In Progress Yamhill: In Progress Washington: Completed	Landslide (SUDC) Story Map: https://arcg.is/19u.nq0 Hood River (Story Map): https://arcg.is/0a880 Sherman (Story Map): https://arcg.is/13g1b0d Wasco (Story Map): https://arcg.is/138530 Coos County (Story Map): https://arcg.is/1v3k400 Washington County (NHRA): https://www.oregongeology.org/pubs/otr/O-22-04/p-O-22-04.htm
DOGAMI	Clackamas County	Vulnerability Assessment	New Award (2023-25)	
DOGAMI	Umatilla, Grant, Hood River, Wasco, Clackamas, Multnomah, and Lane Counties <i>New (2023): Coos, Jackson</i>	Geohazard Mapping & Assessments: Landslide (LS), Liquefaction (LQ), Channel Migration (CM2), Levee-like feature extraction (LV)	In Progress: Umatilla (CM2), Grant (LS), Wasco (LS), Clackamas (CM2), Multnomah (CM2), Lane (EQ/CM2), Creswell/Cottage Grove (EQ/LS/CM2), Hood River (LS) New award (2023): Coos (LS), Jackson (LS/EQ/CM2/LV)	
DOGAMI	Four wildfire areas	Post-Fire Debris Flow (PFDF) Hazard Analysis	In Progress	https://www.oregongeology.org/landslide/postfiredebrisflow.htm
DOGAMI	Statewide	Statewide Digital Flood Hazard Update Historical Flood Event Database <i>Groundwater Resources & Resilience</i>	In Progress New Award (2023)	
IPRE/OPDR	Lane County	Lower McKenzie Restoration Strategy	Completed	Lower McKenzie Resiliency Workshop (May 6, 2022)
IPRE/OPDR	Coos County	Coastal Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaption Strategy	Completed	Coos Bay Climate Strategy Workshop Series and Resilience Meeting (virtual: 2022) Story Map: Coastal Hazards in Coos Bay (arcgis.com)
IPRE/OPDR	Statewide	Mitigation Technical Assistance <i>Rural Resilience Strategy & Capacity</i>	Completed and Delivered (Statewide wildfire code review) New Award (2023)	
Multnomah County Drainage District (MCDD)	Upper & Middle Columbia River Slough	Critical Infrastructure Resilience (MCDD Pump Station Seismic Risk)	Completed	https://www.mcdd.org/portfolio-item/pump-station-1-seismic-stability-analysis/

Rynn shared on behalf of Erin Cooper, the desire to scope hazard mitigation training needs. Paul asked if FEMA could support “emergency training?” Rynn thinks this would be a different area of FEMA. Rynn noted maybe doing a statewide geohazards workshop focused on the best sources of data. Althea expressed her interest in the chat. Rynn introduced Hannah Rabinowitz, the new Earthquake Program Manager at FEMA Region Ten.

11) Update on the Oregon NHMP Update Project and State Risk Assessment Upgrade Project (SRAUP)

First Marian noted that we still await the award of the BRIC (2021) subgrant for the Oregon NHMP Update Project.

She then noted that tomorrow will be the 12th meeting of the Risk Assessment Work Group (RAWG). She noted where to find the materials for the upgrade to the State Risk Assessment:

<https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/NH/Pages/Risk-Assessment-Upgrade.aspx>.

She talked about the key goals for the project which include producing a tool that can be used by our tribes and local governments. It will be GIS based and outward facing. She summarized what occurred during the first eleven meetings.

Chris said we are in the intense data collection phase; she will emphasize during tomorrow’s meeting collecting the metadata. Chris noted we are really launching into the building of the tool, a major milestone.

Marian then talked about the declarations of collaboration with partner agencies, especially the State IHMT agencies. Chris wants to know the program capabilities of State IHMT agencies and general GIS capabilities of the State IHMT member agencies.

12) *Public comment*

Stephen facilitated. No public comment was offered.

13) *Other business*

Stephen talked about the apx. \$6 million in carryover money from House Bill 5006. He is interested in State IHMT input into how to use this funding. The legislative language ties this money to the HMGP, so it needs to be used there. Stephen will need to develop Administrative Rules for this.

14) *Adjourn*

Stephen adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.